



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

The Centennial Celebration



*On March 14, 2003,
Americans will celebrate a
century of wildlife
conservation that began when
President Theodore Roosevelt
declared that tiny Pelican
Island in Florida's Indian
River be protected forever as a
safe haven for pelicans and
other species of birds. This
was the birth of America's
best kept secret... our
National Wildlife Refuges.
This network of vitally
important lands specifically
set aside for wildlife now
includes almost 540 refuges
encompassing 94 million
acres. Over the past century,
these lands have played a
quiet but critical role in the
protection of our nation's
wildlife and wild places.*

Celebration of a Century of Conservation:

100 Years of National Wildlife Refuges

March 14, 2003

Riverview Park, Sebastian, Florida

Join us for a grand celebratory event including:

- Presidential proclamation for the Year of the National Wildlife Refuge
- Establishment of a new National Wildlife Refuge
- Grand Opening of the Pelican Island Centennial Trail & Observation Tower
- Refuge System Time Capsule Exhibit Dedication
- Rededication of Pelican Island as a National Historic Landmark
- Refuge System Flag Ceremony
- Historical re-enactment of Pelican Island's history
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service exhibits, featuring National Wildlife Refuges
- Feature Presentation of the National Children's Essay Contest Winner
- Florida Junior Duck Stamp Art Judging and Display, Center for the Arts, Vero Beach

Pelican Island Wildlife Festival

March 15 & 16, 2003

Riverview Park, Sebastian

- Live Wildlife Shows
- Boat and Kayak Tours of Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge and the Indian River Lagoon
- Wildlife & Nature Arts and Crafts Exhibits
- Live Music
- Over 100 Educational, Environmental, and Historical Exhibits and Demonstrations
- Presentation of the "Feather Wars" Skit
- Amateur Wildlife Photography and Youth Poster Contests
- Kid's Hands on Activities
- Wildlife and Habitat Seminars and Field Trips

*For more information or to volunteer,
contact Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge at 772/562 3909, ext. 258.*



Activities Proposed by the Local Centennial Steering Committee

March 14, 15 & 16, 2003

Indian River County

- Community Parade
- Arlo Guthrie Concert
- Fireworks Display
- U.S. Marine Band Concert
- Theodore Roosevelt Performances

*For more information, or to volunteer to organize a local event,
contact the Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge Centennial Celebration
Public Relations Hotline at 772/571 2003.*

